United Nations S/2009/522

Security Council

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Letter dated 8 October 2009 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey the attached communication dated 20 September 2009 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, expressing appreciation for the role played by the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan and welcoming the proposed continuation of its operations.

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

On behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan I have the honour to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the role played by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), authorized under Security Council resolution 1386 (2001) of 20 December 2001 and subsequent resolutions, for the wider contribution that the United Nations is making towards security and stability in Afghanistan.

The International Security Assistance Force led by NATO since August 2003 has been crucial in improving security initially in Kabul, and, through its programme of phased expansion in the north, west, south and east of the country, which is very important, has played a key role.

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan welcomes the proposal of ISAF continuing to operate in Afghanistan until the security forces are fully able to provide security to our nation. The Government of Afghanistan is grateful to all those nations contributing resources to ISAF and to those nations that have assumed a leadership role.

I hope the Security Council will continue to reflect in its resolutions the paramount importance of fulfilling the ISAF mandate.

(*Signed*) Rangin Dadfar **Spanta**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

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Japan: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on Afghanistan, in particular its resolutions 1386 (2001), 1510 (2003), 1833 (2008) and 1868 (2009),

Reaffirming also its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1368 (2001), 1373 (2001) and 1822 (2008), and *reiterating* its support for international efforts to root out terrorism in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1265 (1999), 1296 (2000), 1674 (2006) and 1738 (2006) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, its resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) and 1889 (2009) on women and peace and security, and its resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009) on children and armed conflict,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan,

Recognizing that the responsibility for providing security and law and order throughout the country resides with the Afghan Authorities, stressing the role of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in assisting the Afghan Government to improve the security situation and *welcoming* the cooperation of the Afghan Government with ISAF,

Recognizing once again the interconnected nature of the challenges in Afghanistan, *reaffirming* that sustainable progress on security, governance and development, as well as the cross-cutting issue of counter-narcotics is mutually reinforcing and *welcoming* the continuing efforts of the Afghan Government and the international community to address these challenges through a comprehensive approach,

Stressing in this context the need for further efforts by the Afghan Government to fight corruption, promote transparency and increase its accountability,

Stressing the central and impartial role that the United Nations continues to play in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan by leading the efforts of the international community, *noting*, in this context, the synergies in the objectives of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and of ISAF, and *stressing* the need for strengthened cooperation, coordination and mutual support, taking due account of their respective designated responsibilities,

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Expressing its strong concern about the security situation in Afghanistan, in particular the increased violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, illegally armed groups, criminals and those involved in the narcotics trade, and the increasingly strong links between terrorism activities and illicit drugs, resulting in threats to the local population, including children, national security forces and international military and civilian personnel,

Encouraging ISAF to further, effectively support, within its designated responsibilities, Afghan-led sustained efforts to address, in cooperation with relevant international and regional actors, the threat posed by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, and *recognizing* the important role played by the UNODC in fighting the negative impact of drug production and trade on security and stability in the region,

Expressing also its concern over the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups on the capacity of the Afghan Government to guarantee the rule of law, to provide security and basic services to the Afghan people, and to ensure the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Reiterating its support for the continuing endeavours by the Afghan Government, with the assistance of the international community, including ISAF and the Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) coalition, to improve the security situation and to continue to address the threat posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups, and *stressing* in this context the need for sustained international efforts, including those of ISAF and the OEF coalition,

Condemning in the strongest terms all attacks, including Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attacks, suicide attacks and abductions, targeting civilians and Afghan and international forces and their deleterious effect on the stabilization, reconstruction and development efforts in Afghanistan, and *condemning* further the use by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups of civilians as human shields,

Recognizing the increased threats posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups as well as the challenges related to the efforts to address such threats,

Expressing its serious concern with the high number of civilian casualties, and *calling* for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians,

Recognizing additional efforts taken by ISAF and other international forces to minimize the risk of civilian casualties, *welcoming* their intention to undertake continued enhanced efforts in this regard including the increased focus on protecting the Afghan population as a central element of the mission, and *noting* the importance of conducting continuous reviews of tactics and procedures and after-action reviews and investigations in cooperation with the Afghan Government in cases where civilian casualties have occurred and when the Afghan Government finds these joint investigations appropriate,

Acknowledging the progress made in security sector reform, *welcoming* supports provided by the international partners in this regard, in particular the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Training Mission

in Afghanistan, the planned European Gendarmerie Force (EGF) contribution to this mission and assistance extended to the Afghan National Police including through the European Union police mission (EUPOL Afghanistan), and *stressing* the need for Afghanistan together with international donors to further strengthen the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, and increase its efforts in disbandment of illegal armed groups, and counter narcotics,

Stressing in this context the importance of further progress by the Afghan Government in ending impunity and strengthening judicial institutions, the rule of law and respect for human rights within Afghanistan, including for women and girls and in the reconstruction and reform of the prison sector in Afghanistan,

Reiterating its call on all Afghan parties and groups to engage constructively in peaceful political dialogue within the framework of the Afghan Constitution and to work together with international donors for the socio-economic development of the country and to avoid resorting to violence including through the use of illegal armed groups, and *encouraging* the implementation of the Afghan Government-led reintegration and reconciliation programmes within the framework of the Afghan Constitution and with full respect of the implementation of measures introduced by the Security Council in its resolution 1267 (1999) and other relevant resolutions of the Council,

Noting the leading role played by the Afghan Authorities in organizing the 2009 presidential and provincial council elections, and the support of the United Nations and ISAF and *recognizing* the need for timely and orderly preparations for the 2010 elections and for the international support in this regard,

Recognizing the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners as well as regional organizations to the stabilization of Afghanistan, *stressing* the crucial importance of advancing regional cooperation as an effective means to promote security, governance and development in Afghanistan and *welcoming* the regional efforts in this regard,

Welcoming the continued coordination between ISAF and the OEF coalition, and the cooperation established between ISAF and the European Union presence in Afghanistan,

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership provided by NATO, and for the contributions of many nations to ISAF and to the OEF coalition, including its maritime interdiction component, which operates within the framework of the counter-terrorism operations in Afghanistan and in accordance with the applicable rules of international law,

Determining that the situation in Afghanistan still constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Determined to ensure the full implementation of the mandate of ISAF, in coordination with the Afghan Government,

Acting for these reasons under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to extend the authorization of the International Security Assistance Force, as defined in resolution 1386 (2001) and 1510 (2003), for a period of twelve months beyond 13 October 2009;

2. *Authorizes* the Member States participating in ISAF to take all necessary measures to fulfil its mandate;

3. *Recognizes* the need to further strengthen ISAF to meet all its operational requirements, and in this regard *calls upon* Member States to contribute personnel, equipment and other resources to ISAF;

4. *Stresses* the importance of increasing, in a comprehensive framework, the functionality, professionalism and accountability of the Afghan security sector, *encourages* ISAF and other partners to sustain their efforts, as resources permit, to train, mentor and empower the Afghan national security forces, in order to accelerate progress towards the goal of self-sufficient, accountable and ethnically balanced Afghan security forces providing security and ensuring the rule of law throughout the country, *welcomes* the increasing leadership role played by the Afghan Authorities in security responsibilities throughout the country, and *stresses* the importance of supporting the planned expansion of the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police;

5. *Calls upon* ISAF to continue to work in close consultation with the Afghan Government and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General as well as with the OEF coalition in the implementation of the force mandate;

6. *Requests* the leadership of ISAF to keep the Security Council regularly informed, through the Secretary-General, on the implementation of its mandate, including through the provision of quarterly reports;

7. *Decides* to remain actively seized of this matter.

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Letter dated 8 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to write to you, in your capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of October, in my capacity as Chair of the OIC Group in New York, to express the full support of OIC member States for the request made by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to convene an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict known as the "Goldstone report".

The OIC member States urge the Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities and consider this request with the utmost care and serious consideration, upholding its responsibilities under the Charter to address such matters of imminent impact to the maintenance of international peace and security.

I would highly appreciate it if the present letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council, in connection with the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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